

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of preparing Troponin I, which method comprises protecting free  
2 sulfhydryl groups of Troponin I under reducing conditions.
- 1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the free sulfhydryl groups are  
2 protected by sulfitolysis.
- 1 3. The method according to claim 2, wherein sulfitolysis comprises reacting  
2 reduced recombinant Troponin I with sodium tetrathionate.
- 1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the recombinant Troponin I is  
2 expressed in a bacterial expression system.
- 1 5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the bacterial expression system is  
2 an *E. coli* expression system.
- 1 6. The method according to claim 1, which further comprises purifying the  
2 sulfhydryl-protected recombinant Troponin I.
- 1 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the Troponin I is purified by  
2 chromatography.
- 1 8. The method according to claim 6, which comprises purifying the Troponin  
2 I under non-reducing conditions.
- 1 9. The method according to claim 6, which further comprises deprotecting the  
2 sulfhydryl groups from the purified Troponin I..

- 1                    10.    Troponin I comprising sulfhydryl protecting groups.
- 1                    11.    The Troponin I of claim 10, which is denatured.
- 1                    12.    The Troponin I of claim 10, wherein the sulfhydryl protecting groups are  
2    sulfates.
- 1                    13.    A method of purifying Troponin I, which method comprises subjecting  
2    Troponin I comprising sulfhydryl protecting groups to chromatography.
- 1                    14.    The method according to claim 13, wherein the sulfhydryl groups are  
2    protected by sulfitolysis.
- 1                    15.    The method according to claim 14, wherein sulfitolysis comprises reacting  
2    reduced, denatured recombinant Troponin I with sodium tetrathionate.
- 1                    16.    The method according to claim 13, which comprises subjecting the Troponin  
2    I to chromatography under non-reducing conditions.
- 1                    17.    The method according to claim 13, wherein the Troponin I is expressed in a  
2    bacterial expression system.
- 1                    18.    The method according to claim 17, wherein the bacterial expression system  
2    is an *E. coli* expression system.
- 1                    19.    The method according to claim 13, wherein a chromatographic support is an  
2    anion exchange column.
- 1                    20.    The method according to claim 19, which further comprises chromatography

- 1 on a hydrophobic interaction chromatographic support.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100